

**APPROVED MINUTES
CITY OF MILPITAS
SISTER CITIES COMMISSION**

Minutes: Meeting of Sister Cities Commission (SCC)
Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 24, 2008
Place of Meeting: Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Committee Meeting Rm.

I. Roll Vice Chair Arthur called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Commissioners/Alternates Present: Arefi, Arthur, Chen, Grilli, Mateo, McCarter (7:05), Ortega, Wan (7:25)
Commissioners/Alternates Absent: Dugdale
City Council Liaison present: Livengood
MUSD Liaison absent: M. Grilli
Staff present: Maxwell

II. Alternates Alternate Commissioner Chen was seated.

III. Pledge Chair Grilli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Minutes The Chair continued the review of the September 2007 minutes to the February meeting.

V. Agenda **MOTION** to approve the January 24, 2008 agenda.

M/S: Arefi/Arthur

Ayes: All

VI. Announcements/Correspondence

None

VII. Citizen's Forum None attending.

1. ELECTIONS Staff called for nominations of Chair. Commissioner Arthur nominated Dennis Grilli to be Chair. It was the consensus of the Commission that Dennis Grilli be Chair of the Commission.

Chair Grilli called for nominations of Vice Chair. Commissioner Mateo nominated Echo Arthur to be Vice Chair. Arthur declined the nomination since she will be resigning from the Commission next September. Commissioner Arthur nominated Debra Dugdale to be Vice Chair. It was the consensus of the Commission that Debra Dugdale be Vice Chair of the Commission.

VIII. Old Business

2. TAIWAN Since Lead Commissioner Wan was not yet present at the meeting the Chair moved this item to later on the agenda.

- 3. HUIZHOU** Chair Grilli reported that eight students and one teacher from Huizhou were attending Milpitas High School and staying with host families this week. He added that there were more volunteer host families than were needed and credited the interest to a high school instructor promoting the program. Grilli suggested that the teacher receive a recognition certificate from the Commission. He reported that a trip to China is tentatively planned and the cost is being researched before it is promoted.
- 4. DAGUPAN** Chair Grilli reported that Commissioner Mateo will assume the Lead Commissioner role for Dagupan and asked Maxwell to get contact information to her.
- 5. TSUKUBA** Lead Commissioner Arthur reported on the status of student applicants for the trip to Tsukuba on June 16 to 24. She noted that even though she would resign from the Commission later this year she would still like to travel to Tsukuba in June as a city representative. Arthur indicated she would always be available to assist as an interpreter in the future.
- 5. EUROPEAN** Lead Commissioner Arefi reported there had not been any activity on this item and he plans to contact the cultural attaché of various embassies.
- 6. PARTICIPATION** Staff noted the information on youth participation from Sister City International that was included in the agenda packet. Commissioner Arthur stated that financial concerns limit the number of students who participate on the trips abroad. Commissioner Arefi discussed the capacity building handout and recommended that everyone read and discuss it at the next meeting. The Chair asked staff to provide the handout again in the next agenda.
- Commissioner Arthur noted that not having financial support for adult chaperones is also a problem. Commissioner Wan suggested that sometimes financial institutions are willing to sponsor individuals for events of this type. He offered to contact some institutions on the possibility of sponsoring a chaperone's trip. Chair Grilli indicated he would not be going on the trip to Huizhou this year and recommended that a commissioner or teacher serve as the trip chaperone.
- 2. TAIWAN** Commissioner Wan reported on his research and considerations related to finding a sister city. He indicated he would continue to research the matter.

XIII. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

No report.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sister City Relationships/Cultural Exchanges:
 - a. Tsukuba City, Japan
 - b. Dagupan City, Philippines
 - c. Huizhou City, China
2. European Sister City Research
3. Student Participation Ideas
4. Taiwan Sister City Research

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn to the February 28, 2008 meeting.

M/S: Arthur/Mateo Ayes: All

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Maxwell
Principal Administrative Analyst